

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 EUR-08 IO-06 ISO-00 SS-15 AID-01
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FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8047
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE
AUSMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 1495
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAR ES SALAAM 1249

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY, MAPUTO ALSO FOR CODEL DIGGS,
LUSAKA ALSO FOR AMB. YOUNG, NAIROBI FOR ASST SEC MOOSE

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: OREP (DIGGS, CHARLES C.), PDEV, RH TZ UK US
SUBJECT: CONGRESSMAN DIGGS' CONVERSATION WITH PRESIDENT
NYERERE MARCH 22

1. SUMMARY: CONVERSATION BETWEEN CONGRESSMAN DIGGS AND
PRESIDENT NYERERE WAS DEVOTED ENTIRELY TO RHODESIA. NYERERE
EMPHASIZED HIS CONFIDENCE IN PRESIDENT CARTER, DISTRUST OF
BRITISH, AND BELIEF THAT US AND UK SHOULD FOLLOWS THROUGH ON
PRINCIPLE OF "SMITH MUST GO." END SUMMARY.

2. CONGRESSMAN DIGGS, ACCOMPANIED BY AMBASSADOR, REST OF
CODEL AND EMBASSY POLOFF, CALLED ON PRESIDENT NYERERE MARCH 22
AT HIS HOME AT MSASANI. CONVERSATION WAS DEVOTED ENTIRELY TO
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RHODESIA.

3. CONGRESSMAN DIGGS INDICATED HIS PESSIMISM ABOUT RHODESIA
AFTER HIS TALKS PREVIOUS DAY IN LONDON. HE SAW NO INITIATIVES
BEING TAKEN TO HALT CONSUMMATION OF THE SALISBURY SETTLEMENT.
PRESSURES IN CONGRESS (HE CITED IMPENDING RESOLUTIONS ON INTERNAL
SETTLEMENT) WERE CAUSE FOR CONCERN. BLACK CAUCUS WAS ONLY

CONGRESSIONAL GROUP SO FAR TO MAKE A STATEMENT REFLECTING INTERNAL SETTLEMENT.

4. IN LENGTHY STATEMENT IN REPLY NYERERE MADE FOLLOWING MAIN POINTS:

A. AFRICA UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORTS BRITISH (AND US) PROPOSAL FOR RHODESIA. YET BRITISH (AND US) KEEP DEFERRING. WHY? BECAUSE SMITH DIDN'T BUY THE AAP. BRITISH WERE NEVER REALLY SERIOUS. HE WAS NOW WORRIED ABOUT THE US.

B. PRESIDENT CARTER IS COMPLETELY SINCERE. "HE BELIEVES IN THE THINGS WE ARE DEMANDING IN RHODESIA." PRESIDENT CARTER HAS THE POWER TO REMOVE SMITH. KAUNDA WAS WORRIED ABOUT GETTING RID OF SMITH. "I SAID CARTER SAID A TIME WILL COME WHEN SMITH WILL HAVE TO GO. WE WERE PLEASED WE WERE GOING TO REMOVE SMITH WITH US SUPPORT. ALL AFRICA WAS PLEASED." MEANWHILE, MILITARY PRESSURE WILL BE KEPT UP. IF UK AND US PULL OUT, CUBANS AND SOVIETS WILL HELP. PORTUGUESE HAD BEEN FORCED OUT. IT IS CERTAIN THAT SMITH ALSO WILL GO.

C. BRITISH AREN'T DOING THEIR JOB. THEY WELL UNDERSTAND HOW POWER SHOULD BE DIVIDED DURING A COLONIAL TRANSITION. IT IS UP TO THEM, NOT PF, TO DEFINE THEIR "MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS". THEY DON'T DO SO BECAUSE THEY WANT TO GIVE SMITH A CHANCE TO COME UP WITH SOMETHING ELSE.

D. MUZOREWA IS NOW "POLITICALLY FINISHED" IN AFRICAN CIRCLES. SMITH WILL "TAR COMPLETELY" ALL AFRICANS WHO JOIN HIM IN HIS NEW VENTURE. POSITIONS HAVE BEEN POLARIZED AND CLARIFIED. SMITH
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WANTED TO DIVIDE THE PATRIOTIC FRONT BY LURING NKOMO, BUT SMITH'S NEW GOVERNMENT IS NOW SET UP AND THE DOOR HAS CLOSED ON NKOMO. "THIS IS A GOOD THING FOR HIM AND US."

5. AMBASSADOR MENTIONED PROBLEMS WITH US PUBLIC AND CONGRESS. WHAT USG WANTED TO CLEAR. PROBLEM WAS EDUCATING US PUBLIC AND PUTTING PRESSURE ON BRITISH. NYERERE SAID HE THOUGHT IT ESSENTIAL TO KEEP BRITISH HOOKED ON AAP. RECALLING OWEN'S RECENTLY-EXPRESSED VIEW THAT US INFLUENCE IN AFRICA WAS AT AN ALL-TIME HIGH, NYERERE SAID, "US INFLUENCE WON'T LAST IF YOU LISTEN TOO MUCH TO SOME OF YOUR LONDON FRIENDS. SMITH CAN BE TOPPLED AND YOU WILL HAVE SOME POLITICAL RIPPLES. IF YOU DON'T TOPPLE SMITH AND THE WAR GOES ON, THERE WON'T BE JUST RIPPLES ANY MORE." HE ASKED WHY WAS SMITH NOT BEING REMOVED? SMITH WAS REMOVABLE AND THAT SHOULD BE STRESSED TO CONGRESS AND PRESIDENT CARTER. "AFRICA CAN BE DONE. SO CAN THE PANAMA CANAL (AND GOOD LUCK WITH THAT). IN PALESTINE YOU HAVE A LONG WAY TO GO AND A LONG WAY IN SOUTH AFRICA, BUT NOT IN RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA."

6. NYERERE THOUGHT EASTER WEEKEND FRONT LINE SUMMIT IN DAR WOULD REAFFIRM FRONT LINE'S (A) TOTAL OPPOSITION TO INTERNAL SETTLEMENT, (B) CONFIDENCE IN AAP AS STILL FORMING A BASIS FOR AN

ACCEPTABLE SETTLEMENT, AND (C) DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE TO SUPPORT AAP.

7. COMMENT: NYERERE'S INTEREST IN GETTING BACK TO THE PRINCIPLE OF "SMITH MUST GO" CAME THROUGH PRETTY CLEARLY AT SEVERAL POINTS DURING THE CONVERSATION. END COMMENT.

8. ABOVE REPORT PREPARED AFTER CONGRESSMAN DIGGS DEPARTED DARES SALAAM.

9. FOR MAPUTO: WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR REPEATING TO US ANY COMMENTS CODEL MAY WISH TO ADD.
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